(b) The estimated additional employment opportunities generated under REGP in NER, including Sikkim during the last three years, are given below:

| SI. No. | States | Additional employment opportunities generated under REGP in NER | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | 2004-05 | 2005-06 | 2006-07 |
| 1. | Arunachal Pradesh | 1219 | 1857 | 2106 |
| 2 | Assam | 25768 | 49595 | 30912 |
| 3. | Manipur | 1313 | 416 | 1881 |
| 4. | Meghalaya | 3789 | 1962 | 2174 |
| 5. | Mizoram | 5180 | 18255 | 16455 |
| 6. | Nagaland | 3851 | 5549 | 3358 |
| 7. | Tripura | 3994 | 5616 | 5851 |
| 8. | Sikkim | 3227 | 1750 | 2208 |
| | TOTAL NER: | 48341 | 85000 | 64945 |

(c) KVIC has set a target for assisting the setting up of 122 village industry units under REGP during 2007-08 in Sikkim, as detailed below:

| Industry Group | Number of projects | Targeted Employment (Number of persons) |
|---|---|---|
| Food and agro based industrry | 49 | 925 |
| Forest based industry | 6 | 116 |
| Handmade paper/fibre | 6 | 116 |
| Mineral based industry | 18 | 347 |
| Polymer and chemical based industry | 6 | 116 |
| Rural Engineering and biotechnology | 25 | 462 |
| Service/Textile | 12 | 230 |
| TOTAL: | 122 | 2312 |

**Village industries**

2098. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there was a target to set up 31,800 village industries in the country during 2006-07;

(b) if so, the number of village industries which were proposed to be set up in Andhra Pradesh in 2006-07;

(c) the number of village industries set up in the first ten months in Andhra Pradesh;

(d) the margin money and other assistance provided to above village industries in the first ten months;

(e) whether there are any conditions to be fulfilled by an entrepreneur to set up a village industry; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI MAHAVIR PRASAD): (a) and (b) The target of assisting the establishment of village industry units under the Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP) during 2006-07 was 31,760. Of these units, 2940 units were proposed for setting up in Andhra Pradesh.

(c) and (d) 1083 village industry units were set up in Andhra Pradesh during the first ten months of 2006-07 (upto January, 2007) and margin money assistance amounting to Rs. 1907.93 lakh was provided to them.

(e) and (f) Under the REGP, an eligible entrepreneur can establish a village industry in rural areas and small towns with population upto 20,000 for economically viable activities, other than those in a small negative list, by availing of margin money assistance from the KVIC and loan from any public sector scheduled commercial bank.

The eligibility conditions include (i) the beneficiary should be of 18 years of age or above, (ii) only one person from one family is eligible (iii) fixed capital investment should not exceed Rs. 1 lakh per worker employed in general category areas (Rs. 1.5 lakh in hilly areas), (iv) the project cost should not exceed Rs. 25 lakh (cost of land should not be included in the project) (v) the beneficiary will contribute 10 per cent of the project cost as own contribution (5 per cent for certain weaker-sections, *viz.,* Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Women, Ex-servicemen, etc.), etc.

**Claim settlement**

2099. SHRI VEDPRAKASH P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that victims are getting very less payment/claim settlement than the claim amount at Railway Claims Tribunal;

(b) the details about RCT Chairman's representation, suggestion and Railway's view point on the same;

(c) when this amount such as Rs. 4,00,000 for death, Rs. 1 to 3 lacs for major injury/disabled, etc., have been fixed; why the same has not been revised; and

(d) whether the Railway is considering revised rates, claim amount etc.; if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) No, Sir. The amount of compensation is decreed by the Railway Claims Tribunal in accordance with the Railway accidents and Untoward Incidents (Compensation) Amendment Rules, 1997. Under these rules, the compensation in case of. death is Rs.4 lakh and in case of injuries the minimum compensation is Rs.32,000/- and the maximum is Rs.4,00,000/-.